Clark, Dorothy.

St. Borromeo Is Founder Of Sunday School System

T.H. Trib.-Star., 5/22/64

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Back in the summer of 1880 there was a great celebration in London honoring Robert Raikes as the founder of the present Sunday School system. The news hardly had time to reach the editor of FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE before he started writing his correction of the English statement.

According to his findings the true founder of Sunday schools is one of the most venerated saints in the Roman Catholic Calendar — St. Charles Borromeo of Milan, nephew of Pope Pius V.

The Rev. Alban Butler in his LIVES OF THE FATHERS, MARTYRS, ETC., tells in reference to St. Charles Borromeo (who, it must be remembered, lived two hundred years before Raikes was born), that "his zeal in procuring that all children and others throughout his diocese Milan) should be perfectly instruced in the Catechism or Christian doctrine was fruitful in promoting this important duty of religion.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Not content with strictly enjoying all parish priests to give public catechism every Sunday and Holy Day, he established everywhere, schools of the Christian doctrine, which amounted to the number of 740, in which were 3,040 catechists and 40,098 scholars."

Schools Dwindled

During the life of this saint, these schools were regularly kept up. He died September 22nd, 1631, and without his powerful influence and guidance, the schools gradually dwindled. But the seed had taken root.

In England, a Protestant minister followed the example of the Catholic saint. The Rev. Joseph Alleine, who died in 1668, organized several public assemblies, where he taught all who chose to come. Isolated schools were established also in various places on the Continent of Europe.

The next school of which any rrcord can be found was established in the Parish of Flaxley by Mrs. Catherine Boevey, who died January 23rd, 1726. Her purity and culture were praised by all her contemporaries.

She was married in 1682, and widowed six years later with an immense fortune, which she devoted to establishing a Sunday School. Her faithful friend, Mrs. Rachel Vergo, has left an account of this school, from which we quote:

"Six of the poor children who were kept at school at Flaxley dined by turns regularly every Sunday at the Abbey, when Mrs. Boevey heard them say their Catechism.

She was very often in the habit of lending money to poor clergymen and others, which was frequently repaid her in small sums, but more often given to them. During the Christmas holidays before Mrs. Boevey died she had the thirty children who were taught at her expense, for a dinner of beef and pudding at the Abbey.

Sixpence Each

After dinner Mrs. Boevey had them all into the parlor, where she was sitting dressed in white and silver. She showed them her clothes and jewels, talked pleasantly and with great good nature to them, and after giving each of them sixpence, dismissed them."

When Mrs. Boevey died, she bequeathed the interest of 800 pounds toward apprenticing and maintaining poor children. A monument to her had been erected in Westminister Abbey.

In America, the first Sunday School was established by Lidwig Hacker, between the years 1740 and 1747, at Ephrater, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Hacker belonged to the German Seventh-Day Baptists.

This school was kept up until the Battle of Brandywine in 1777 when the school room was turned into a hospital and the school was broken up.

The Rev. Theophilus Lindsey, incumbent of Catterick in Yorkshire, England, established a Sunday School there in 1764. It was his custom to devote an hour every Sunday afternoon, before the beginning of afternoon service to catechizing and expounding the Bible to the children of the parish.

About 100 boys formed a large circle around him. Holding a Bible open in his hand, he walked slowly round, giving it regularly in secession to the boys, each reading, in his turn, the passage about to be explained.

This method, ablong with frequent recaptitulation of what had been said, and by asking them questions relating to it, kept them very attentive and the good effects of these labors proved apparent in after life.

Mr. Lindsey was often recognized in the streets of London by some of his former Sunday pupils, who gratefully acknowledged their obligations to him.

After evening services, Mr. Lindsey received different classes of young men and women, on alternate Sundays, in his study, for the purpose of instruction.

Mrs. Lindsey, in like manner, in another room, had two classes of children, boys and girls, alternately. This school lasted until 1773, when Mr. Lindsey resigned his living and left the Church of England, becoming a Unitarian.

Miss Hannah Ball, one of John Wesley's favorite correspondents, instituted a Sunday School in the year 1769, in her native town of High Wycombe. Her custom was to assemble as many children as she could, generally some thirty or forty, on Sunday morning to read the Scriptures, and repeat the Catechism and Collect before to going to church. She continued this school for many years.

Mr. Blair, a Scotch clergyman, instituted a Sunday School in Brechin, N.B., about the year 1760. He died in 1769. A marble tablet in the parish church at Brechin records this fact.

"Old Jenny o' th' Hey," as he was called, or, to give him his proper name, James Heys, a weaver at Little Lever, near Bolton, England, established a Sunday school in 1775, and from this school three healthy branches shot off.

Mr. Adam Crompton, a paper manufacturer, supplied the books. From the three branches other branches grew.

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And lastly, in 1778, the Rev. David Simpson opened a Sunday school in Macclesfield, and at the same time the Rev. Thomas Stock organized one in Ashbury. Thus we see that Raikes only followed in the path which had been previously trodden by many others and when at last, in 1789, he became a Sunday School worker, it was not alone, but in conjunction with the Rev. Mr. Stock, who already had established a school.

The editor of LESLIES' concluded his remarks with this statement: "As we have shown, Sunday schools were established in England, on the Continent and in America, long enough before Raikes was ever heard of. The credit of origination justly belongs to St. Charles Borromeo, the Cardinal Archbishop of Milan."

—Historically Speaking—

MAY 14 1978

By Dorothy Clark

Profiles of women behind men who signed the Declaration

Community Affairs File

Clark, Dorothy J.

In honor of Mother's Day, I've chosen to tell about the women whose husbands were among the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. These 56 Signers had a total of 70 wives. Sixteen of them were married more than once, and two never married.

The wives of this extraordinary group of men who founded the American republic came from great Southern plantations and small New England farms, from thriving Colonial cities such as Boston, Charleston and Philadelphia, and from rural villages. Some were born to great fortunes; others came from humble backgrounds and grew up in the simplest dwellings.

But they all married men who mutually pledged "to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor" (and those of their wives) in upholding the treasonous act which produced the United States of America.

Julia Rush, daughter of New Jersey Signer Richard Stockton, was married at 16 to Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadelphia, the most famous physician and medical teacher of his generation.

His letters to his wife are a moving tribute to their devotion. In May, 1776, five months after their wedding, he wrote: "My dearest, I did not know till since we parted how much you were a part of myself, and I feel some abatement of my affection for my country when I reflect that even she has deprived me of an hour of my dear Julia's company..."

Undisputed leader of society in Philadelphia was Mrs. Robert Morris. When Robert Morris married Mary White from Maryland in 1769, he had already left his humble Liverpool background far behind to become the richest merchant in Philadelphia.

Molly was described as elegant, accomplished in every way to carry out the demands of her position. She was mistress of the finest private residence in the city and entertained every visitor of distinction, including George and Martha Washington. When the Federal government was moved to Philadelphia in 1790, the Morrises lent their house to the Washington's for the presidential mansion.

Robert Morris lost his vast fortune in land speculation in the late 1790's and was cast in debtor's prison for more than three years. His wife, refusing to leave Philadelphia during the deadly yellow-fever epidemic, visited him in prison when she had to walk through two rows of coffins to reach his cell.

Deborah Read Franklin (1707-74), the daughter of a carpenter, represents a Philadelphia far removed from that of Julia Rush and Mary Morris. Benjamin Franklin took her as his common-law wife in September, 1730 (she could never obtain a divorce from an earlier marriage).

Franklin was just starting out on his own as a printer with a small store in his house. She came to him without a dowry and with only a smattering of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Her talents had been concentrated on domestic chores of an 18th century woman of modest means, but she had a good business head.

While some of the Signer's wives joined their husbands in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary years, the beautiful and aristocratic Dorothy Quincy Hancock, wife of the President of the Second Continental Congress, is the only one who spent her honeymoon there.

Even at the risk of becoming an old maid, "Dolly" had for years resisted "King" Hancock, the richest merchant and ship owner and the best catch in Boston. She was 28 years old and definitely "over the hill" by the standards of the day when she married.

She did not like Philadelphia, and the Hancocks returned to the family mansion high on Boston's Beacon Hill before the end of the Revolution. Dolly glittered as First Lady of Massachusetts during her husband's nine terms as Governor between 1780 and his death in 1793.

Arthur Middleton and his wife, Mary, lived typical lives of wealthy South Carolina society, spending formal social seasons in their elegant Charleston town houses and the remainder of the year on their plantations. The Middleton name was distinguished among the rice, indigo and tobacco planters.

Sarah Armitage from New Castle, Delaware, was the second wife of Thomas McKean, a Delaware Signer whom she married Sept. 3, 1774. Although born in Pennsylvania, McKean was active in Delaware politics as well and led the movement there for a Continental Congress. He held posts in both states, but his allegiance to Pennsylvania won out and he moved to Philadelphia in 1774 where he remained with his family until his death in 1817.

Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a native of Maryland, was one of the richest men in the Colonies, and so prudent that reason always prevailed over emotion. His choice of wife was made with utmost care.

On the evening of his marriage to his first cousin once removed, Mary (Molly) Darnall, he wrote that she was a "young lady endowed with every quality to make me happy...virtue, good sense, good temper...a sweet-tempered, charming, neat girl."

After their wedding, the Carrolls took up residence in the family mansion in Annapolis, where Molly excelled as a hostess. At the time of the Revolution, the town was celebrated for its splendid and hospitable mansions, costly equipages, elegant women, fine horses and frequent and elaborate entertainments.

Unfortunately, Molly's health was delicate and she only managed to be the perfect wife and hostess with the aid of laudanum (tincture of opium) which contributed to her death in 1782 at the age of 33 years.

Mrs. Oliver Wolcott, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor of Connecticut, was born Laura Collins in Guilford. An early account tells how she educated their children and managed the farm and all affairs of the family while her husband was away from home.

In 1776 when an equestrian statue of King George III was pulled down in New York City, Laura helped the women of Litchfield break it into pieces and melt it down to form lead bullets desperately needed by the Continental Army. Laura herself made 4,250 of these.

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Abigail Smith Adams (1744-1818), wife of John Adams, was considered too delicate for formal schooling, yet she became one of the most literate and intellectually and politically astute women in American history. She was described as warm and witty, brilliantly observant, opinionated, and on occasion quite acid.

During the ongoing Bicentennial years, let us remember these nine women who, in a very real sense, pledged their lives, fortunes, and their sacred honor to the creation of the U.S. of A.

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Ts SEP 2 8 1980

'Buffalo Bill' . . .

How buffaloed Bill became

And how the buffalo persevered and survived it all — with help

After the Civil War, new U. S. Army posts were strung along the frontier, and the government contracted with professional hunters to furnish garrisons with buffalo meat. With no way to ship hides, the hunter simply discarded them.

The building of the Missouri Pacific and Kansas Pacific railroads solved the transportation problem both ways—for hides and hunters. Immediately the rush was on with "sportsmen" from the East and Europe rushing to participate in the ceaseless slaughter.

The passengers on trains stalled by the passage of thinning herds amused themselves for hours by shooting into the mass of animals from train windows. It was reported by a New York newspaperman that over 500 were killed or crippled—mostly crippled—by rifle-toting adventurers aboard his train before the herd had passed.

Following the Civil War, young Bill Cody worked as a hunter for a railroad camp earning $500 a month for supplying the camp with the hindquarters of ten to twelve bison a day. The rest of the carcasses were left on the prairie to rot, along with all the other carcasses left by other hunters.

During hot weather the resulting stench was enough to "sicken a polecat," according to a disgusted Jim Bridger. There were not enough coyotes, magpies, ravens and buzzards to clean up the frightful mess.

Cody's immortal title of "Buffalo Bill" was gained in a somewhat inglorious fashion. A wounded bull gored his horse and dumped young Billy in the prairie. He took off running, the bull chasing him. Cavalrymen from a nearby army post rescued the scared youth and dubbed him "Buffalo Bill" then and there.

Dime novel writer Ned Buntline latched on to the incident and built Buffalo Bill Cody into an imperishable legend, paving the way for his colorful Wild West Show and his career as an international showman.

Flamboyant though he was, Cody could shoot. He proved that in a match buffalo hunt against Billy Comstock, the famous scout and the army's ace meat hunter. Officers at Fort Wallace raised a purse of $500 and challenged Cody to engage in a match hunt for the "buffalo shooting championship of the world."

An excursion train ran from St. Louis to Fort Sheridan where the great hunt took place on the prairie 20 miles east. Over 100 passengers attended the event.

Cody rode his favorite horse, Brigham, and used his needlegun, Lucretia Borgia, a breechloading Springfield rifle, caliber 50. Comstock used a Henry repeating rifle, 44 caliber.

The man who killed the most buffalo from horseback in one day of eight hours, beginning at eight o'clock in the morning, was to be declared the winner. A referee followed each hunter to count his buffalo. Both hunters were to enter the herd at the same time.

Three runs were made. In the first, Cody killed 38 and Comstock 23. In the second, Cody killed 18 and Comstock 14. In the third and last run, Cody exhibited his skill and horsemanship by leaving both saddle and bridle behind. He entered the herd and quickly killed 13, Comstock 9. The totals were 69 to 46, and Cody was declared champion buffalo hunter of the plains' proving his right to the title "Buffalo Bill."

After the Santa Fe Railroad reached Dodge City, Kans., in 1872, it became "Buffalo Capitol of ths World." Of its 1873 population of 4,000, two-thirds were buff hunters, bearded, unsavory army of the finest rifle shots in the world.

Hide sheds along the railroad right-of-way, some of them 175 feet high and 60 feet wide, held skins waiting to be shipped. One firm alone shipped 200,000 hides that first winter. The terrible stench of drying hides hung over Dodge day and night.

In wholesale slaughter of this kind, buffalo had no more chance than a steer in a stockyard. The price of skins fell to $1.25 each by the fall of 1873. Hindquarters dropped to a cent a pound, and forequarters were useless. Tongues were still considered a delicacy by Eastern and European markets and sold for 25 cents each.

Hide hunters ran up a total of 12,500,000 kills between 1870-75. By 1877, the "Buffalo Capitol" was Fort Griffin, near Abilene, Texas. By 1878, the vast southern herd was virtually exterminated.

Laws to protect the bison came too late. General Phil Sheridan, military commander of the Southwest, believed the hide hunters had done more to solve the Indian problem than the army had been able to do in 30 years. He believed extermination of the buffalo was the only way to achieve lasting peace and the advancement of civilization.

Next the northern herd of buffalo were attacked. Montana skins were worth four times as much as Texas skins. Climatic conditions made the northern hide thicker, which made a warmer, more luxuriant robe. From 1876 to 1880, the annual take was about 80,000 skins.

In 1880 the Northern Pacific Railroad came to Bismarck, N.D., and the final grim phase of the great slaughter of buffalo began.

In 1881, 50,000 hides were shipped

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by rail; in 1882, 200,000; in 1883, 40,000, and in 1884, 300. Prices soarded from $5 a hide to $30, with few available. By 1885, hides were so rare that each was worth $75.

Sitting Bull, head chief of the Hunkpapa Sioux and bitter foe of the white hunter, led the last buffalo hunt in September, 1883. "My heart is on the ground," mourned the chief. "A cold wind blew across the prairie when the last buffalo fell—a death-wind for my people."

The guns had stopped booming. All that was left of the buffalo were the bleaching bones, and since these could be used back East in fertilizing and carbon works, the bonehunters arrived with wagons. A ton of bones was worth $6 to $8. One hunter known only as "Old Buffalo Bones" shipped 3,000 carloads out of Dodge City in two years. The Santa Fe hauled 1,350,000 pounds of bones in three years.

Bone buyers paid out an estimated $2,500,000 for bones over a 13-year period in Kansas. Soon the bones had all been gathered up. Now all that remained of the buffalo were his old wallows and bare circles where great bulls wore away grass in constant watchful patrolling to protect calving cows against wolves.

By 1889 only 541 buffalo remained alive in the United States, in zoos, private refuges and in Yellowstone Park. By 1897, the last specimen of the original wild stock was shot.

The few in captivity served to form a nucleus from which to build a national herd to save the species. Today over 14,000 buffalo roam more than 200 ranges and about 450 private ranches in 46 states. Surplus meat is sold to restaurants and supermarkets in the Midwest and West. Bison meat tastes like tender beef, although darker and smaller grained.

Lab tests show it is lower in cholesterol content than beef. Buffalo shot for conservation reasons by national park rangers are butchered and the meat distributed to charitable institutions including schools on Indian reservations where children are afforded the opportunity to taste the favorite food of their ancestors.

So, despite the hide hunters, the hardy buffalo has survived and will always be with us—part of the great American heritage.

Gen. Pope's rise and fall ... in defeat

'Glowing promises of certain victory' ended

√ Clark, Dorothy

Ts AUG 0 9 1987

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

In the annals of the Civil War there is no more pathetic figure than Gen. John Pope who had won national fame by capturing New Madrid and Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River. Pope came to Washington in June 1862, in answer to a telegram from Secretary Stanton.

A new army known as the Army of Virginia was created out of three corps, then under the respective command of Gen. McDowell, Gen. N. P. Banks, and Gen. John C. Fremont. They had been held from the Peninsula Campaign to protect Washington, D.C.

Pope begged to be sent back to the West. He said three corps commanders were his senior in rank and his promotion would create ill feeling.

His protests were of no avail, and he assumed command of the Army of Virginia on June 26. McDowell and Banks made no protest, but Fremont refused to serve under Pope and resigned. His corps was assigned to Gen. Franz Sigel.

During a month of preparation, Pope was too easily swayed by advice and planning of civilians. He flamboyantly addressed his army, ending with the statement, "My headquarters will be in the saddle."

When this remark reached Gen. Lee, he grimly commented, "Perhaps his headquarters will be where his hindquarters ought to be."

Gen. Pope proclaimed to his men, "I have come to you from the West where we have always seen the backs of our enemies." He warned them to quit thinking of lines of retreat and bases of supplies and to look before and not behind.

The immediate object of Gen. Pope was to make the capital secure, to advance toward Richmond, and draw part of Lee's army away from McClellan. His first objective was Gordonsville.

From this town near the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains, there was a railroad connecting it with Richmond, a convenient means of furnishing men and supplies to the Confederate Army. Pope decided to occupy the town and destroy the railroad.

Lee learned his intentions and sent Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson and Gen. Ewell's divisions to occupy Gordonsville on July 13. By the end of July there were 25,000 Confederate soldiers enjoying the fresh mountain air.

As a prelude to the series of defeats Pope would suffer in the next six weeks, he began his general advance on Gordonsville on Aug. 6.

The small settlement at Culpeper Court House was the meeting place of four railroads where Pope's army of 47,000 men would be united.

Jackson, informed of the advance, immediately set his three divisions toward Culpeper, hoping to hold the town and prevent the uniting of the Army of Virginia. His progress was slow.

On the morning of Aug. 9, he finally got his troops over the Rapidan and Robertson rivers. Two miles beyond rose the slope of Slaughter Mountain, whose ominous name was more often changed to Cedar Mountain.

This so-called mountain is an isolated foothill of the Blue Ridge, some 20 miles from the parent range, and a little north of the Rapidan. From its summit could be seen vast stretches of quiet farmland.

Here on the slope of Cedar Mountain occurred one of the most severe little battles of the Civil War on Aug. 9, 1862. On the banks of Cedar Run, seven miles south of Culpeper and a mile or two north of the mountain, Banks' cavalry waited to oppose Jackson's advance.

Jackson halted when he received this information and waited for an attack. He was situated so perfectly it would take a much larger force to dislodge it. And yet, Gen. Banks made the attempt with an army about one third as large as that of Jackson.

Pope had made glowing promises of certain success. He realized the whole North was eagerly watching and waiting for him to live up to his boasts. He had to strike somewhere and do it soon, and here was his chance at Cedar Mountain.

Pope sent Banks, with only 8,000 men, against the brilliant Southern commander with an army three times as large, holding a strong position on the mountain side.

On the afternoon of Aug. 9, the northern army approached the mountain through open fields in full range of the Confederate cannon which opened fire with a thunderous roar. Heedless of danger, the brave Union soldiers ran up the slope as if to take the rebels by storm, when suddenly they met a brigade face to face, and a brief, deadly encounter took place.

In a few minutes the Confederate right flank began to waver, and might have been routed if another brigade had not arrived, and still another rushed down the hill and opened fire on the federal lines extending along the eastern bank of Cedar Run.

Meanwhile, Union batteries had been wheeled into position and their deep roar answered the cannons on the hill. The furious battle continued for two or three hours. The ground was strewn with dead

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and dying. The odds were too great and at nightfall Banks began to withdraw his troops, leaving 2,000 men, a fourth of his whole army, dead or dying on the hillside, while the Confederate losses were over 1,300.

While the fighting continued, neither side could send aid to the wounded soldiers who suffered terribly from thirst and lack of attention on the sultry August day and hot humid night.

The hardworking artillerymen of both armies kept up heavy shelling until nearly midnight, while the victorious Confederates withdrew to the woods up the mountain side.

For two days the armies faced each other across the valley, then both quietly withdrew. Pope's first battle as leader of the Eastern army had resulted in neither victory nor defeat.

Following his defeat at the second battle of Bull Run, Pope retreated to Washington and begged to be relieved of his command. The president complied with his wishes and handed over the disorganized remnants of the Army of Virginia and the Army of the Potomac to the "Little Napoleon," George B. McClellan. The South was overjoyed with its victory.

A brief summer had marked the rise and fall of Gen. John Pope. Thousands of Union men were killed or maimed due to the wrong man being given command. Lincoln should have listened to other advisers.